



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2

290 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

August 25, 2014

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

Robert Law, PhD
demaximis, inc.
186 Center Street, Suite 290
Clinton, NJ 08809

**Re: Lower Passaic River Study Area – Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)
Model – Newark Bay Study Area (NBSA) portion of model – CERCLA Docket No.
02-2007-2009**

Dear Dr. Law:

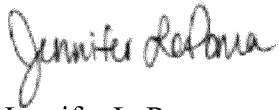
In your letter dated July 28, 2014, sent on behalf of the Lower Passaic River Study Area Cooperating Parties Group (CPG), you stated the CPG could not provide a schedule for completion of the Newark Bay Study Area portion of the model. Your letter referred to information on the status and schedule for the remaining data collection for the NBSA Remedial Investigation which you indicate the CPG needs in order to provide EPA with a schedule for completing the NBSA portion of the model.

The data that are still being collected by Tierra Solutions, Inc. for Occidental Chemical Corporation are not necessary for the CPG to develop and calibrate the single model for the combined LPRSA and NBSA domain. The existing data that have been collected by the CPG, Tierra, and EPA in the NBSA (see bullets below) is sufficient to develop and calibrate the hydrodynamics, sediment transport, contaminant fate and transport models. The QAPPs developed for the PWCM and CWCM data were developed to meet this objective.

- 2005 Ph I and 2007 Ph II sediment coring data
- 2010 PWCM program data
- 2011-2013 CWCM data
- 2005, 2008 and 2012-2013 Newark Bay bathymetry surveys
- 2012 SEDFlume data

Any additional data collected for the NBSA RI/FS, which may include sediment chemistry or surface water chemistry data, will be used for model data comparisons. The exception is the bioaccumulation model, the development of which will await receipt of the crab/clam and fish tissue data that Tierra is collecting this fall. It is anticipated crab/clam data will be available by early 2015 and fish data by fall of 2015. By this letter, the EPA directs the CPG to use the existing data to develop the NBSA portion of models, except for the bioaccumulation model, and submit the code and inputs to EPA by January 15, 2015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer LaPoma". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer LaPoma
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 2

Cc: Willard Potter, de maximis
Ray Basso, EPA
Eugenia Naranjo, EPA
Sarah Flanagan, EPA
Patricia Hick, EPA
Amelia Wagner, EPA